



The Eagle Eye

September 2016

Principal's Message:

"I'm a greater believer in luck, and I find the harder I work the more I have of it"

— **Thomas Jefferson**

A little over six years ago I had a very sad day. While always optimistic about what was ahead, I was leaving not just a job and a school, but a home. I knew that replicating this environment and this community anywhere else was not going to happen. In May of last year, my family and I had a celebration on the other side of the world (New Zealand to be exact) when we found out that I had been sent back home. I have spent the remaining time nervously hoping that changes would not happen. I think at this point it is safe to say I am here to stay. I could not be happier.

I am also excited to finally work with Hillary Glass. We have shared many laughs over the years at various meetings. I can testify that she has the work ethic, sense of humour and dedication to students that will allow her to fit in at EDHS immediately.

No school year is ever easy, there are always challenges. That being said, adaptation and overcoming challenges has been part of this school for a long time now. For the first time in a long time the shadow of school closure is not part of our challenge. To be back as part of this staff and to be part of the positive changes that are coming, is exactly what I hoped for.

EDHS has personal support for each and every student. I chose the above quote on purpose. If your student is willing to work, he/she will be successful. Please contact the school at any time if you have any questions or need help in any area of your student's education.

There will be an OSSLT test on the morning of October 20th. This is the first online version of OSSLT testing. We will be doing two bus runs on October 20, the first run for the students participating in the assessment, the second run bringing all other students to school for afternoon programming. There will be details in our next newsletter. For more information on the test and to view some sample questions please visit www.eqao.com

Dan Macdonald, Principal

Vice-Principal's Message

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the students and families, I have met to date, for the very warm welcome to EDHS. This is a school and community like no other and one in which I have wanted to work for many years. I am very happy to be an Eagle and I am looking forward to meeting more of the Elmvale family at our school and community events.

I began my teaching career in London, where I was born and raised, teaching in both the elementary and secondary panels before moving to Perkinsfield 20 years ago. I spent some time as the Guidance Head at MSS before making the sojourn to Singapore to teach internationally. Upon my return, I moved into Administration working the past 9 years as a Vice Principal at each of the public high schools in Orillia. I'm thrilled to be back in my neck of the woods and I welcome the opportunity to get to know everyone throughout the year. Feel free to contact me at 705-322-2201 ext. 42053 or come in and introduce yourself when you are at the school.

I'm looking forward to a great year.

Ms. Hillary Glass, Vice Principal

FROM MATH

The Math department will be offering math help to support homework and assignment completion and to enhance Numeracy skills. Extra help through the Math Support Program is available to students at lunch, Monday to Friday, 11:30 – 12:00 pm in Room 128. Student attendance and work completion will be recorded. Also, Math Homework Help offers free online math support for students in grades 7-10 at www.ontario.ca/HomeworkHelp



Procedures help keep our school safe

The safety and well-being of students is our top priority. We have a number of procedures in place to keep our school safe. You can help your child understand and feel safe by:

- talking to them about the situations below
- reminding them that emergencies are rare
- telling them it's important to follow staff instructions in these situations

Parents should talk about the following emergency drills with their children:

- **Shelter in place** is used when there is an environmental or weather-related situation, like a chemical spill outside the building, or a major storm. Activities continue inside the school. Students and staff are not allowed to leave the building. The ventilation system may be shut off.
- A **hold and secure** is used when there is a situation in the community, not related to the school, like a bank robbery nearby. Activities continue, but all doors are locked. No one is allowed to enter or exit the school.
- A **lockdown** is used when there is a major incident or a threat of violence related to the school. Students and staff move to secure areas, away from doors and windows. Doors are locked, lights are shut off and blinds are drawn. Students and staff remain quiet. We practice lockdown drills at least two times per year. In the unlikely event of an actual lockdown situation, police ask that parents do not go to the school. Information will be communicated through the school board social media sites (www.facebook.com/SCDSB and www.twitter.com/SCDSB_Schools) and website (www.scdsb.on.ca), through local police and local media.
- All schools have **evacuation plans** in case of gas leaks, bomb threats or fire incidents that would require everyone to leave the school. Each school has an evacuation site. Ours is Huronia Centennial Elementary across the road. We hold drills to practice our evacuation plan. In a real evacuation, students and staff may go to the evacuation site, depending on the situation. Parents will be informed about pick-up procedures by the school, school board and local media.
- Staff and volunteers must complete a **criminal record check** before having contact with students.
- We ask parents to contact us when their student will be absent from school as part of our **attendance** program.
- At least two staff members in every school are trained in **first aid and CPR**. All Simcoe County District School Board schools **have Automated External Defibrillators (AEDs)**.

When parents are at school during a drill or emergency event, they must follow direction from school staff, police, fire and/or emergency personnel. Parents may not have immediate access to their children during drills or emergencies. They may need to wait until the situation is resolved and school staff and/or emergency personnel release students into parent care.

It's important for you to know we'll always take whatever precautions are necessary to keep our school and students safe.

From the EDHS Library

The school library is up and running, full steam ahead. In just two weeks, the library has hosted 25 classes for book selection, research and quiet study. More than 125 books have been circulated to students for pleasure reading, novel study and inquiry-based learning assignments. The closure of Barrie Central Collegiate saw a windfall of additional print materials come to our library for circulation. New this year, individual laptops and Chromebooks are available for students to sign out as needed for in-class presentations and research tasks. Already, students with study periods and online courses are making excellent use of library resources and space to facilitate learning. All students are reminded that the teacher librarians are your resource, too. Please bring us your questions concerning reading recommendations, research and referencing. We proof read, too! Let us help you to achieve your full potential.

Mr. T. Anderson, Ms. C. Adams

FROM STUDENT SERVICES

- ◆ We've had a great start to the semester! We have 10 grade 12 students registered in the Dual Credit program, earning both a high school credit and a college credit on a Georgian College campus one day a week. We also have 14 students taking a total of 17 elearning credits in semester one. It is so great to see students take advantage of the opportunities available to them ☺
- ◆ As always the students have been patient and understanding as we work through timetable changes. Students should now be settled into their classes and timetable changes will require a parent signature. If at any time you would like an update on your son's/daughter's progress, please contact the teachers directly or Student Services to request a progress report.
- ◆ A grade 12 meeting is scheduled for all college and university-bound students on September 27. At this time students will be given a personalized package of information regarding scholarships, post-secondary programs/options, research websites, diploma requirements, etc. Please ask them to share the material with you to help you stay informed.
- ◆ All senior students are encouraged to research their post-secondary options. Many Ontario colleges and universities have booked visits to EDHS to describe their programs. Students are encouraged to sign up for these sessions.
- ◆ Local resources for graduates who intend to go to work directly from high school are available at the YMCA Employment Resource Centre in Midland or through the Employment Resource Centre Outreach services at our Springwater Library.
- ◆ The 40 hours of Community Service required for graduation is sometimes forgotten. Please see <http://communitylink.cioc.ca> for possible placements. Other opportunities are announced and posted on the board outside of Student Services.
- ◆ We are pleased to welcome several community partners to EDHS this year. Students have access to a Social Worker, Child and Youth Worker, Youth Counsellor, registered nurse, and a mental health and addictions nurse, all of whom will have office time with us weekly or bi-weekly. We encourage students to let us know if they would like to access these services.
- ◆ Please feel welcome to contact Mrs. Georgy-Jenkinson in Student Services with questions or concerns. We look forward to working with our EDHS families this year.

SCHOOL CASH ONLINE

The SchoolCash Online program is available at our school, offering parents the option to pay online for Student Activity Fees, some field trips and other school related costs. To create an online account, go to simcoecounty.schoolcashonline.com. Please contact the school office with any questions.

SCHOOL COUNCIL

We invite parents to become actively involved in EDHS through participation on School Council. This is an excellent way to enhance communication between school and home and to represent the voice of EDHS parents about a variety of school-based topics and issues. EDHS School Council members do not directly participate in fundraising. Please consider joining this group of dedicated individuals who are committed to EDHS students, the school and our broader school community. Elections will take place at our first meeting. If you are interested in a position on Council please contact the school, we will be happy to provide you with the forms via email, fax or by sending home with your student. The School Council consists of parents, the school Principal, a school staff member, a community member and a student representative. Meetings take place four to five times per year. Our first meeting was held on Tuesday, September 20th we would love to see you at our next meeting on November 21st at 6:30 p.m. in the school library.

LINK CREW

EDHS's Link Crew this year is super excited to help make the transition for the grade nine student into high school a positive one! Our Link Crew hosted an exciting orientation day on August 30th for our new grade nines. This day provided them with an exclusive tour of the school with their Leaders and the ability to participate in fun activities. Link Crew enjoyed a great time on Grade Nine Day Friday, September 16th where grade nines participated in a high energy morning filled with lots of activities after lunch at Heritage Park. This day was about welcoming the grade nines into our school and getting them involved in the many games. On the night of September 16th, Student's Council hosted our annual Grade Nine Dance where the students danced the night away from 7-10 pm. The Link Crew are committed to celebrate our new grade nines and to help them make this year count! Stay tuned for upcoming events!

STUDENT COUNCIL

This September Student's Council helped with many school activities. Beginning September 8th, we have helped to organize Picture day, collecting students' fees as well as the first day of school assembly and handing out pencils on the first day to welcome everyone back. The students' council also provided lunch to all grade 9's and other leaders at Heritage Park for Grade 9 Day, followed by an energy-filled assembly in the EDHS gym. Grade 9 Day wrapped up with a Welcome Back dance that was a huge success filled with great music, free candy, and lots of Hawaiian decorations. The students' council are ecstatic about our upcoming year. We would love to make this the best year for all students attending EDHS.

STUDENT ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION

Welcome back to another fantastic year at EDHS. The SAA members have already been working hard and we have a great slate of activities lined up for you!

We will kick off the year with our annual Terry Fox Foundation Fundraiser. Hundreds of EDHS staff and students will enjoy a morning of running or walking at Blueberry Trails Centre in Wasaga Beach on Thursday, September 29th. This is a fundraiser for cancer research.

Also starting up in the coming days will be our intramural program - lunch time supervised sports activities every Tuesday and Thursday. These activities favour participation over competition although all important house points are up for grabs. Appropriate footwear is necessary for indoor activities. All are welcome. Our Annual "Hicks with Sticks" 3-on-3 ball hockey tournament will be running in November this year so stay tuned for more information on that.

SAA Executive 2016-2017: Sarah Wells, Ben Bader, Rhys Lanskail, Matt Moreau, Cruze Beaudry, Aiden Ritchie, Braedan Allen, Madelyn Martin, Rori Valender, Emily Bader, Lauren Pagliaro, Brittney Willson, Haleigh Woodward, Paige Pagliaro, Becca Spence and Tye King.

Spark

EDHS is continuing with its SPARK initiative. In short, there exists compelling evidence that short bursts of vigorous physical activity create significant waves of brain activity. This positive impact not only wakens the human brain, it actually causes growth in brain cells through the development of new neural pathways. We believe this program has merit and so our school schedule has set aside 20 minutes per day for physical activity. SPARK activities are supported by our Physical Education staff and SAA both inside the gym and outside on the field/track. Parental support and encouragement towards participation would be very helpful. Students are encouraged to bring in their own sports equipment (within the physical education safety guidelines – **NO "real" baseballs, golf balls, lacrosse balls, or baseball bats**). This 20 minutes is not meant for students to leave school property but to engage in some physical activity, walking or game play and re-energize for the last period of the day.

STUDENT ACCIDENT INSURANCE 2016-2017

Student injuries at school, during school events, and extra-curricular activities (athletics, clubs, and out-of-province/out-of-country trips) are not covered by the Board or its insurance company. While every precaution is taken to provide a safe learning environment, accidents can and do happen. It is essential that all students participating in extra-curricular activities have adequate insurance coverage for all instances of injury. The Simcoe County District School Board has selected the "insure my kids" program through Old Republic Canada as an option for students/parents/guardians to consider with regards to purchasing student accident insurance coverage for the upcoming school year. The coverage is for 24 hours a day. This insurance offers a variety of plans and benefits at reasonable annual prices. Coverage can be purchased online at www.insuremykids.com. Please watch for your student accident insurance package along with a letter about requirements for extra-curricular activities and out-of-province or out-of-country trips.

ADMINISTRATION OF MEDICATION

Some students are required to take medication during the school year. This includes those students with severe allergies (to food products or insect stings) as well as those with asthma. A "Request for Administration of Medication" form must be completed before any school personnel can administer medication to a student. These forms are available in the main office.



VOLUNTEERS

The SCDSB encourages participation of volunteers in schools. Volunteers are asked to complete an information form, provide an original copy of a Criminal Records Check which includes Vulnerable Sector screening. All drivers transporting students must file a Volunteer Transportation Authorization Form in the office, in addition to the Criminal Records Check. Students who travel with volunteer drivers must fill out a Passenger Permission Form signed by a parent or guardian if they are not 18 years old, and submit it to the office at least 24 hours before the event. **Student drivers must not transport other students including siblings in their vehicle for school sanctioned off site activities.**

BOSTON PIZZA

Boston Pizza is offering all schools in the area a great fundraising opportunity. It is very simple, each time you enjoy a meal at Boston Pizza in the Midland, please let them know you would like EDHS to receive credit. 5% of the bill before taxes is donated to us once a year. Thanks to all of you who took part in this last year. We look forward to accepting a donation from this fabulous restaurant again this year.

YEARBOOK

The "LAST CHAPTER" is available for pickup. If you purchased the 2015-16 yearbook "Eagles in da house", you are entitled to the last chapter of the book, which is available for pick up. This chapter is easily affixed to the book and contains great photos from graduation, prom, spring sports and the last day of school. Make your book complete by picking up your "last chapter" today. Just pop into the school and ask for Ms. Mady.

For students who did not purchase a yearbook from last year, but would like to, there are still a limited number left. These unique time capsules of memories are only \$50. Contact Ms. Mady if you are interested.

THE EDHS SCREAMIN' EAGLES SPORTS REPORT

Although the new school year is only a few days old, our Screamin' Eagles sports teams are in full gear. By the time you read this, the boys soccer, golf and volleyball, girls flag football and basketball and the co-ed cross country running teams will have selected their squads and be into their seasons. Parents and community members who are interested in attending games can check out the school web-site to find links for the season schedules. We love to have fans attend games and you won't get a better price for season tickets anywhere!

This year the sports team fees will be \$50.00 / sport for all major sports. Your student athlete will be provided with an exact cost breakdown when they make a team. Students will also be charged a \$10.00 uniform replacement fee to help the school begin to purchase new uniforms for our teams. .

This year boys' soccer and girls' basketball will be sporting new jerseys and already they have generated many positive reviews.

If you have any questions during the school year regarding our athletic program, feel free to contact our school athletic Director, John Minty at 322-2201 ext 55077.

Music

The talented music students of EDHS are again looking forward to our fall concert, this year's showcase is being called "The Classics". Remember to set aside Thursday, November 17th, your attendance will help encourage these young performers. This concert promises to be a unique celebration of Elmvale's musical prowess.

Rehearsals for the Concert, Blues band and Concert Choir begin the week of September 19-23rd. Music teacher Mr. Muldoon is looking for new members. All students are welcome, please encourage your student to participate and get involved! The rehearsal schedule is as follows:

Music Rehearsal Schedule

Tuesdays at 12 noon: Choir (Muldoon/Mady)

Wednesdays and Fridays at 12 noon: Concert Band (Muldoon)

Wednesdays afterschool 3:30-5pm: Blues Band (Muldoon)

Thursdays at 12 noon: Acapella singing group (Mady)

Extra Life

This year, students from Elmvale District High School will once again be joining forces to help raise money for Toronto SickKids Hospital. We will be doing this through the charitable organization Extra Life. Extra Life has been running this event since 2008, raising over 20 million dollars since then. Participants register online with ExtraLife, get sponsored to play video games and then play a marathon session of 24 hours. Last year, students from EDHS raised over \$5900 during this event. This was an amazing feat, but even more amazing is that Team EDHS has raised a total over \$10,000 dollars since we started. Please check out Extra-Life.org to see who's registered and consider sponsoring a student from EDHS to help support Toronto SickKids Hospital. Please support the digital collection of donations. It makes it simpler for the student and provides an easy way for Toronto SickKids to supply you with a tax receipt for your 2016 taxes. Please check back on your sponsored student to see how they do when the marathon comes around on November 5th. This event is not about the video games. This event is about raising money for hospitals that make a real difference in people's lives. This event is about showing teenagers that may never have participated in a charitable event, that helping others in need can be a fun and rewarding experience. If you have any questions, please contact Mr. Burns.

CO-OPERATIVE EDUCATION

Bill Neily - wneily@scdsb.on.ca

Taudie McLeaming – tmcleaming@scdsb.on.ca

Things are booming in the Co-op Dept. here at EDHS. This semester's group has just completed their two weeks of pre-placement training, and as of September 21st, are in their placements enjoying the "real world" work placement experience.

Students are involved in a wide range of career opportunities in and around the Elmvale area. Examples of this semester's placements include: computers, music production, welding, machining and manufacturing, auto-service technician, personal support worker, powerline technician, fine carpentry, farming, food services, library services, office administration, heavy equipment operation, education and equine.

If you are an employer, or work in a business, organization or industry that you think may be interested in the Co-op experience, don't hesitate to call us!

Interested in taking Co-op Education?

What is Co-op?

- A fun, exciting way to earn school credits and learn more about what the world of work is like
- A way to learn about a career area of your interest i.e. health care, automotive, social work, electrical, retail sales, industry, etc.
- A chance to get your foot in the door for a part-time job, a full-time job or an apprenticeship

Can I apply for Co-op?

- Are you responsible and eager to learn new things?
- Will you be at least 16 years of age sometime next year?

- Will you have earned at least 16 credits by the time your co-op begins? (8 credits per year)
- Did you/will you have passed your grade 10 Careers course?

Tell me More

- 2 credit co-ops can be taken in the morning or afternoon
- 4 credit co-ops are all day
- You can take as many co-ops as you want in any semester, as long as you are on track to receive your 18 mandatory courses, you can still participate in school events, teams and clubs!! Still not sure?

See Mr. Bill Neily or Mrs. McLeaming for more info! (ext. 42057)

Reminder from the Health Unit: School grounds are smoke free 24/7

Protect yourself and your children from the health hazards of second-hand smoke. Remember, it is against the law to smoke ANYWHERE on school property at ANY TIME. This includes smoking in your vehicle while picking up or dropping off students. It is also against the law to smoke or hold lit tobacco in a vehicle carrying anyone under age 16. The fine for ignoring the law is \$250. For more information contact the Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit 705-721-7520 or 1-877-721-7520 or visit www.simcoemuskokahealth.org.

RAINBOWS GUIDING KIDS THROUGH LIFE'S STORMS

Rainbows Georgian Triangle, now operating under **Elephant Thoughts**, is accepting registrations for their Rainbows, Spectrum and Prism fall programs. **Rainbows for All Children** is an international not-for-profit organization that offers peer support to assist children, adolescents and adults who are grieving death, divorce, separation, abandonment, foster care, deployment, serious family illness or other painful loss.

- Rainbows volunteer facilitators have helped nearly 3,000,000 youth in 18 countries since 1983.
- Rainbows is endorsed by clinicians, courts, educational systems, churches, and mental health professionals.

3 levels are offered in Collingwood:

Rainbows – ages 5 to 14 Spectrum – grades 9 to 12 Prism – parents of youth in the program

Programs run twice yearly: Fall (September – December) and Spring (January – May)

ELMVALE FALL FAIR – PARENT INVOLVEMENT NEEDED

Every year, the week prior to the Elmvale Fall Fair, has the four houses of EDHS involved in a whirlwind of activity. Part of the preparation includes the building of House floats for the Blizzards, Rowdies, Pirates and Trojans. In order to make this happen, parent volunteers are needed to assist in a variety of ways.

- First, each house will need a property to meet and build the float at (preferably a sheltered space in case it rains that week).
- Secondly, the donation of a flat-bed trailer is needed to build the float on (the trailer will have to be at the building location for the full week - Monday through Saturday).
- Thirdly, a fully licensed driver over the age of 21 is needed to pull the trailer (either with pick-up truck or tractor) for both the Friday and Saturday parades.
- As well, creative and skilled parents are needed to assist with building the actual float design (as often, power tools are used and need to be used safely and under supervision).



Help your child embrace the spirit of EDHS and the Elmvale Fall Fair by offering your assistance in any of these ways. Please talk with your teen about how you can help on the week of Oct 3-8, 2016. You can call and make your commitment to one of the house leaders (listed below) or you can just let your teen share that good news. All help is welcomed and appreciated.

Rowdies House Master - Mrs. T. Polan
Trojans House Master – Mrs. N. Wilson

Blizzards House Master - Mrs. T. McLeaming
Pirates House Master - Mr. W. Allen

IMPORTANT DATES

Awards Assembly	September 28th
Terry Fox Run	September 29^h
Fall Fair	October 9-10th
Progress Reports	October 13th
OSSLT	October 20th
Parent Teacher/Guardian Interview	October 20th
School Picture Retake	October 27th
Take Our Kids to Work Day	November 4th
Professional Activity Day	November 13th
Mid Semester Reports	November 17th
Fall Music Concert	November 17th
School Council Meeting	November 21st

